

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

District Facility Plans: Anchorage, Corbin and Science Hill Independent (Science Hill hearing report under separate cover)

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 157.420, KRS 157.622, KRS 157.620, 702 KAR 1:001

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the proposed District Facility Plans (DFP) for the above listed Kentucky school districts?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. In accordance with 702 KAR 1:001, each district must develop a local DFP at the completion of a four (4) year cycle or at the completion of an eight (8) year cycle (maximum) if the district applies for and is granted a waiver. This process provides a Master Educational Facility Plan that contains an assessment of the school district's attributes and operations including the district profile, educational program, demographic information, facility conditions, transportation information, and finances (cost of delivery of services).

Local school districts are required to select a Local Planning Committee (LPC) to develop a Master Educational Facility Plan (MEFP) and a DFP outlining capital construction priorities.

The LPC, by virtue of its makeup, encourages both community involvement and diversity of ideas. The LPC recommends an MEFP/DFP to the local board. The DFP submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is the final decision of the local board of education.

Information reviewed in developing the MEFP/DFP provides the LPC with a comprehensive view of program and facility needs required to provide an equitable educational opportunity. KDE staff validates the process and verifies that all information has been provided to the LPC for evaluation.

Each district's proposed DFP was recommended by the LPC and approved by the local board of education. KDE staff certifies that the plans presented are in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001 and are in compliance with all appropriate steps as follows: (1) LPC selection process documented; (2) review of proposed district facility plan for educational programs and curriculum, demographics, facility evaluations, transportation requirements, adequacy of financial plan, and adequacy of square footage; (3) public forum notification through news

media; (4) local board public hearing conducted; (5) local KBE public hearing conducted with appointed KDE hearing officer; and (6) plan submitted for KBE approval.

Staff Recommendation(s) and Rationale:

Staff recommends that the KBE approve the proposed District Facility Plans for Anchorage, Corbin and Science Hill Independent School Districts. Staff certifies that these plans meet the provisions of 702 KAR 1:001.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

In Standard 4 of the Standards and Indicators for School Improvement it is noted that the schools' physical environment has an impact on student achievement. Research also indicates that better facilities enhance equity (equal opportunities for all students), attitudes and retention of staff, and parental involvement.

Contact Person:

Kyna Koch, Associate Commissioner
Office of District Support Services
(502) 564-3930
kyna.koch@education.ky.gov

Mark W. Ryles, Director
Division of Facilities Management
(502) 564-4326
mark.ryles@education.ky.gov

Deputy Commissioner

Commissioner of Education

Date:

February 2006